

## N E W S R E L E A S E

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### **California's Payroll Employment Up 31,100 Jobs Unemployment Rate Increases to 5.0 Percent**

**SACRAMENTO** – California's unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in February, the state Employment Development Department (EDD) reported today, compared to a year ago, in February 2005, when the state unemployment rate was 5.6 percent. The unemployment rate in January was a revised 4.8 percent.

According to EDD's survey of employers, nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 31,100 jobs over the month, for a total of 14,966,800.

According to the separate survey of households, the number of Californians holding jobs in February was 16,816,000. This was a decrease of 39,000 from January, but up 206,000 from the employment total in February of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 879,000 – an increase of 20,000 over the month, but down by 109,000 compared with February of last year.

Of the unemployed, 312,700 were laid off, 89,700 left their jobs voluntarily, and the remaining were either new entrants or reentrants into the labor market, or persons who completed temporary jobs.

#### **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 353,014 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the February survey week. This compares with 360,761 last month and 422,683 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 35,186 in February 2006, compared with 42,297 in January and 47,791 in February of last year.

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## WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,966,800 in February, a net gain of 31,100 jobs since the January survey. This followed a gain of 16,800 jobs (as revised) in January.

Ten of the categories (**construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government**) added jobs over the month, gaining 31,100 jobs. The professional and business services industry showed the largest gain, up by 10,800 jobs. One category, **natural resources and mining**, was unchanged.

In a year-over-year comparison (February 2005 to February 2006), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 281,900 jobs (up 1.9 percent).

Nine industry divisions (**natural resources and mining; construction; trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government**) posted job gains over the year, adding 303,500 jobs. On a numerical basis, professional and business services showed the strongest employment growth, adding 68,100 jobs (a 3.2 percent increase). On a percentage of growth basis, construction showed the strongest gain, up 6.6 percent (adding 58,000 jobs).

Two categories (**manufacturing and information**) posted job declines over the year, down 21,600 jobs. On a numerical basis, manufacturing employment showed the largest decline, down by 15,100 jobs (a decline of 1.0 percent).

## WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (**NOT** SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

Over the month, employment in **government** showed the largest non-seasonally adjusted gain, up by 25,000 jobs. Most of the gains were in local and state government, primarily in local and state government education, which added 18,000 jobs and 3,400 jobs, respectively. **Trade, transportation and utilities** recorded the greatest non-seasonally adjusted loss, down by 16,100 jobs. The losses were concentrated in the retail trade sector, which declined by 19,200 jobs.

The **professional and business services** industries reported the largest gain over the year, up 68,100 jobs. The largest gains were in the administrative and support services sector, which was up by 35,400 jobs, and the professional, scientific and technical services sector, which was up by 32,500 jobs. The largest decrease over the year was in **manufacturing**, which was down by 12,700 jobs. This included a loss of 7,800 jobs in durable goods manufacturing and 4,900 jobs in nondurable goods manufacturing.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

**WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA**  
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	February 2006 (prelim.)	January 2006	February 2005	Change Over 12 months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers . . . . .	14,966.8	14,935.7	14,684.9	1.9
Natural resources and mining . . . . .	24.0	24.0	23.1	3.9
Construction . . . . .	935.5	931.5	877.5	6.6
Manufacturing . . . . .	1,505.9	1,505.1	1,521.0	-1.0
Trade, transportation and utilities . . . . .	2,845.2	2,842.5	2,798.0	1.7
Information . . . . .	470.4	466.0	476.9	-1.4
Financial activities . . . . .	940.3	939.0	916.7	2.6
Professional and business services . . . . .	2,196.5	2,185.7	2,128.4	3.2
Educational and health services . . . . .	1,601.6	1,599.0	1,574.8	1.7
Leisure and hospitality . . . . .	1,504.0	1,501.3	1,455.7	3.3
Other services . . . . .	517.5	515.9	506.0	2.3
Government* . . . . .	2,425.9	2,425.7	2,406.8	0.8
Agriculture . . . . .	394.9	379.0	369.2	7.0

\*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

**TABLE A**  
**EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA**

	February 2006	January 2006	December 2005	February 2005
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	17,695,000	17,714,000	17,823,000	17,598,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	16,816,000	16,855,000	16,912,000	16,610,000
Unemployment . . . . .	879,000	859,000	911,000	988,000
Seasonally adjusted rate % . . . .	5.0	4.8	5.1	5.6
US seasonally adjusted rate % .	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.4

**TABLE B**  
**EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA**

	February 2006	January 2006	December 2005	February 2005
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	17,666,000	17,658,000	17,805,000	17,581,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	16,718,000	16,722,000	16,952,000	16,501,000
Unemployment . . . . .	948,000	936,000	853,000	1,080,000
Unadjusted rate % . . . . .	5.4	5.3	4.8	6.1

<sup>a</sup>Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

**MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES**  
**February 2006; 2005 BENCHMARK**  
**NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>17,665,700</b>	<b>16,718,100</b>	<b>947,600</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
ALAMEDA	746,700	711,500	35,200	4.7%
ALPINE	660	630	30	5.0%
AMADOR	16,840	15,870	970	5.8%
BUTTE	100,000	93,400	6,600	6.6%
CALAVERAS	20,670	19,450	1,220	5.9%
COLUSA	9,690	7,980	1,710	17.6%
CONTRA COSTA	512,200	489,100	23,100	4.5%
DEL NORTE	10,610	9,830	780	7.4%
EL DORADO	91,700	87,300	4,400	4.8%
FRESNO	396,200	358,000	38,200	9.7%
GLENN	11,290	10,220	1,070	9.5%
HUMBOLDT	60,400	56,700	3,600	6.0%
IMPERIAL	61,800	54,000	7,700	12.5%
INYO	9,300	8,840	460	5.0%
KERN	321,400	292,700	28,700	8.9%
KINGS	53,800	48,200	5,600	10.5%
LAKE	25,470	23,490	1,980	7.8%
LASSEN	12,210	10,930	1,280	10.5%
LOS ANGELES	4,869,100	4,602,300	266,800	5.5%
MADERA	61,000	56,200	4,800	7.9%
MARIN	129,400	124,600	4,800	3.7%
MARIPOSA	8,160	7,550	620	7.5%
MENDOCINO	43,660	41,050	2,610	6.0%
MERCED	98,800	87,600	11,200	11.4%
MODOC	3,870	3,460	410	10.5%
MONO	9,540	9,160	380	4.0%
MONTEREY	198,100	177,400	20,800	10.5%
NAPA	71,100	68,200	2,900	4.0%
NEVADA	49,640	47,330	2,310	4.6%
ORANGE	1,598,300	1,541,300	57,000	3.6%
PLACER	163,500	156,800	6,700	4.1%
PLUMAS	9,890	8,810	1,080	10.9%
RIVERSIDE	849,000	809,300	39,700	4.7%
SACRAMENTO	677,800	645,500	32,300	4.8%
SAN BENITO	25,300	22,900	2,400	9.5%
SAN BERNARDINO	864,100	823,600	40,500	4.7%
SAN DIEGO	1,504,400	1,443,100	61,200	4.1%
SAN FRANCISCO	417,900	398,300	19,700	4.7%
SAN JOAQUIN	282,200	259,500	22,700	8.0%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	131,100	125,800	5,300	4.0%
SAN MATEO	362,100	347,400	14,700	4.1%
SANTA BARBARA	209,900	200,400	9,500	4.5%
SANTA CLARA	813,000	772,600	40,300	5.0%
SANTA CRUZ	140,600	129,900	10,700	7.6%
SHASTA	81,000	74,900	6,000	7.5%
SIERRA	1,580	1,420	160	10.1%
SISKIYOU	18,320	16,380	1,940	10.6%
SOLANO	210,100	199,100	11,000	5.2%
SONOMA	254,300	243,500	10,800	4.3%
STANISLAUS	227,100	207,400	19,800	8.7%
SUTTER	41,400	37,000	4,400	10.7%
TEHAMA	24,960	23,200	1,760	7.0%
TRINITY	5,150	4,490	660	12.8%
TULARE	181,500	163,000	18,500	10.2%
TUOLUMNE	25,930	24,290	1,640	6.3%
VENTURA	420,400	402,000	18,400	4.4%
YOLO	95,400	89,600	5,800	6.1%
YUBA	26,100	23,600	2,500	9.6%